## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kazue Tanaka

Examiner:

Francis J. Jaworski

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**OPERATION** 

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R §§1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following reference, which is also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2002-177292, dated June 25, 2002, together with English-language Abstract.

## CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent & Trademark Office via Electronic Filing through the United States Patent and Trademark Office e-business website, on December 17, 2007.

Dated: December 17, 2007

Thomas Spinelli

The reference was cited in an Official Action dated November 13, 2007 received from the Japanese Patent Office. Applicant is submitting a copy of the above-cited reference required by 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a)(2)(i) and (ii), together with a copy of the Official Action. The relevance of the reference is described in the Official Action. Please note the other reference cited in the Official Action, namely, Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2002-45368, dated February 12, 2002, was previously submitted in Applicant's Information

Disclosure Statement dated November 12, 2003.

The undersigned attorney hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Spinelli

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TS:DAT:jam